

19 July 44

Security Intelligence Information

WFO 187160

S.I.L.O.

Consolidated Interrogation Report  
on  
Mr. Ivanoslav Stepano Djuricovic

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2006

EXAMINER:

Subject is a Roman Catholic priest, who is said from uninturned in politics, a Croatian Croat Nationalist, and an intellectual, if in any way somewhat immature. The following represents the outcome of five interviews with him. His hobbies appear to be collecting stamps and "evidence" against the Serbs.

1. PERSONAL HISTORY.

Petar

Born 1903 at JAGODINA. His father, Petar, now dead, was professor of natural sciences at JAGODINA. One brother, Zvonimir, is a bank clerk at ZAGREB, and another, Kruscimir, is a clerk in a private firm. A sister, Ljubica, is a school mistress at GABROVO.

Education: TRAVNIK, GABROVO, Communism, Polytechnic, VIENNA 1922-5, S. JUDEO Theological Seminary 1929 - 50, Instituto Oriental Pontificio at ROME 1932 - 5.

Occupation: 1930-2 Priest at S. JUDEO  
1932-5 At KOSE (Sombor)  
1935-40 Catechist to the School, Secretary to the Archbishop, and, as he describes them, similar "old jobs" in S. JUDEO.  
1941 Feb. Appointed teacher in Ecclesiastical History at KROVNIK University, by competition. His post he still holds.  
1941 Jun.-Jul. Spent 52 days in SPLIT, on refusing relief work, to help his friend the Bishop of BROD, Dr. CICIĆ. He was based on BROD, but travelled widely in JUGOSLAVIA.  
1941 autumn Doctor President of a Croat-Slovene Committee for the relief of Slovene refugees in JUGOSLAVIA. This Committee was to be his own liberation. He is still nominally President (see p. 11).  
1943 Aug. Came to Italy to represent the Croatian Church. His sponsor was the Bishopric of LUCIJA, and his mission to secure the return of S. JUDEO to help Jugoslav interests. He returned to S. JUDEO at the end of the year and remained to JULY 1944.

2. COLLUSION.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

Subject stated voluntarily that he knew that three or four men had been killed against him:-

(1) "He was a collaborator with the Germans. He states that his work for the Red Army in S. JUDEO in 1941 and in Italy in 1943-4 made it necessary for him to approach the Germans with a view to securing his release or people in general. Apart from this he had no contact with the Germans, except that he had taken to an German Oberleutnant who was billeted on him in Italy.

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy

(2)(B) Methods/Sources

(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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(ii) That he was a Military Chaplain to the Government of Egypt. This he categorically denies.

(iii) That he acted as guide to Col. FRANCETON'S (the notorious Ultra) Regiment. He categorically denies that he ever held this post or ever acted as guide to any troops.

It would that he supported the Ustashi movement at first, because it brought about the creation of the Independent State of CROATIA. But he never claimed to be a member. And he states that his support for it died after a few months. Now he still supports the Independent State of CROATIA, but not the Ustashi regime.

(\*) The actual charges levied again + subject, which have been brought to notice are :-

(i) That he is still an evident Uskasi.

(ii) That whilst acting as Red Cross Delegate in Italy he worked to the advantage of the Uskasi, ignoring all non-Crest, Yugoslav instances that he found, and sent the Crest instances whose relevance he scanned but to Crete in where they were received at THESSALONIKI by the Germans and converted off to forced labour.

(iii) That whilst President of the Slovene-Croat Refugee Relief Committee at LYON he was supported by NAVLJIC and in close touch with VENIK, the predominant Slovene Clerical and collaborationist.

2000000000 evidence has not been outcome to support any of those  
refugees, except that he is undoubtedly working with AUSMILR. (They have  
been so widely labelled against him, however, that it is difficult to  
believe they have no foundation.)

## GOVERNMENT

He is political called to be officially anti-Serb and pro-Croat. He is also officially a pro-Populist because the article 172 Government and therefore in league with the Germans. He is alleged to have expressed anxiety over what the future development of CROATIA, but under interpretation no evidence of this emerged although no evidence emerged either to the contrary.

It justifies his anti-Serbi outlook by declaring that the Serbs have always controlled and terrorised the Croats, and that the Ustiks who have existed for 70 years, have been an instrument of their oppression. The dictatorship of Pavelić was the continuation of this process of terrorism, and the following events, according to him, such as to ensure his domination over the government of Yugoslavia. It was in answer to this opposition that in 1929 PAVELIĆ started the Ustnik movement and a Great answer to the Serbs. PAVELIĆ was then exiled for making an inflammatory speech about NOVI SAD in 1934, and the next day something of a Croat legend was born. It was reported that Van Gogh had been killed, but actually they were only frightened, not that only a man like PAVELIĆ then went to ITALY and made an agreement with Mussolini, that Italy was a party, because the Italians have been the main supporters of the Great Ustniks of Yugoslavia, and in fact also. It is true that the Ustniks had the Ustniks, but also a large number of the Great Ustniks were very strong in Italy, through a Croat, in fact, as we know, it is been the 2nd largest party of the Serbs and so to speak at best.

and, in addition, by showing that economists are by definition aligned, and by attacking the right to a reward.

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### APPENDIX II (CONT.)

Subject's account of this is that after the collapse of NEUTRALIA in 1941 practically all Croats welcomed the Ustashi regime because it brought with it the creation of the Independent State of CROATIA and freedom from Serb dominion, and few distinguished between this and the régime. After a few months the Ustashi lost this support because of their terrorism but people still wished to retain the Independent State of CROATIA.

He states further that the Allies should take note that the existence of the independent State of CROATIA will be defended by every Croat to the end. They mistrust the idea of a Yugoslav Federation as proposed by the R.R.C., because past experience has shown this leads to呻吟 domination. If the Allies wish to gain the support and not the opposition of the Croats, they must respect this.

He states that through the British Minister to the VATICAN he submitted in January 44 a memorandum to the British Foreign Office, summarizing his views. These are, broadly, the formation of a ~~YUGOSLAV~~ Federation consisting of AUSTRIA, SLOVENIA, CROATIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA and parts of ~~YUGOSLAVIA~~.

He does not attempt to defend Ustashi terrorism, though he states that terrorism was in fact started by the Serbs, and that the most terrible of the Ustashi have by now all been killed in the mutual executions which have been going on. He thinks the Ustashi regime would have been good if the Italians and Germans had not corrupted it.

There is, he states, within the Ustasi Party itself, a large body of opposition to its policy of terrorism. This body believes that is only serves the ends of the Germans, as carrier of the Ustasists. It includes among its members Mr. STJEC, Dr. CARRIĆ, Dr. SOŠIĆ, ĐEĐIĆ, Dr. PETRČ (former Minister of Religion), and many others. ĐEĐIĆ is already disbanded with the thugs. They will work for K.O.P. or anyone else who will give them for Independent State of CROATIA without the Ustasi.

## THE CROOKSTON REFUGEE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

DRAGOMOVIC states that he formed this on his own initiative at Zagreb in the autumn of 1941, to help Slovaks who had fled from Slovakia after the German and Italian occupation. The members of the Committee were:-

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Prof. D. GUDKOVIC    | President           |
| Dir. St. G. GOLSTEIN | Vice-President      |
| Prof. I. SACHAROV    | Secretary (Slovene) |
| Dr. G. GOLSTEIN      | Treasurer "         |

The Committee has contact with Mr. WYATT, who brought them money from BOSTON. He is a Slovens Clerical (now in office) and wrote contact with the Committee through the Bishop of BOSTON. He was in fact present at the first meeting of the Committee. By virtue of the Committee's special trust with it was, of course, very necessary he was distributing every day contributions every time he brought it money.

The Christians had no connection with the Rajas, no states, including the Raja of Jodhpur from Ballalji, through Dr. A. N. R. (all told several million rupees), and none else from subscriptions in America, notwithstanding their world-wide knownness. The Indians suspected that they were receiving money illegitimately and raised their suspicion. They closed up their ports, but put RUPAR in prison for two months on suspicion.

The third floor is for kitchens and an orchestra, and Stojanovic  
handles administrative duties.

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GRUSEK has now left the Committee, because his political views were antagonistic to some of the Slovones. He was replaced by SDRKA, a Slovone and a Liberal.

Another Refugee Relief Committee was run in ZAGREB by Pavle HORVAT, President of the Slovene Peasant and Workers Party. He carried on his political activities parallel to his relief activities and, therefore, had little contact with DRAGOVIC's Committee. His administrative expenses were high and his funds low, so he achieved little and eventually closed down.

6.

## THE CROAT RED CROSS IN ITALY.

In Aug 45 DRAGOVIC was sent to ITALY by the Archbishop of ZAGREB, to work for this. He also had a wish to work in the VATICAN. His function was to complete a book on the Early History of the Church in the Balkans.

The head of the Croat Red Cross is Dr. JUN, an eye specialist at Z.G.C.B University. The Archbishop of ZAGREB sponsored the work in ITALY because the Italians claimed that all Jugoslavs imprisoned there were political internees and did not come within the sphere of the Red Cross. The Archbishop was able to bring VATICAN pressure to bear, and altogether DRAGOVIC claims to have secured the release of 10,000 people.

The Germans insisted that all people released should be repatriated. D. states that he was obliged to pay an out-and-out of attention to this ruling, but usually secured people a week's grace between release and repatriation during which they could "disappear". Most of them in fact allowed themselves to be repatriated for fear of the consequences to their family if they were not.

There was at VENICE a Red Cross Commission consisting of Professor LINDIC, JUPANCIC, ZIDARIC and Dr. FERVIC (former Ustasci Minister of Hygiene). D. states that this commission never directed people to forced labour in GERMANY and in fact protested against it.

(NOTE:- Dr. JUN, another Red Cross delegate states he knew well that this Commission did direct people to GERMANY, and that Prof. LINDIC is undoubtedly an Ustasci. If he knew, it is difficult to see how D. did not.)

7.

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

### A. THE FASCIST DELEGATION TO ZAGREB.

D. can remember only two names, VALESTRA DI MOTOLI and General Eugenio COELLOCHI. The latter in 1941 was haranguing the Croats not to tolerate any longer Chetnik atrocities, at the same time as at CISTONE the Italians were launching against the Croats a band of Chetniks armed by them.

The Delegation requisitioned Falaschi and Military Colleges in large numbers. The selection of Military Colleges were deliberate: the Italians insisted that all Croat officers should go to MCCHIA to be trained. In fact the DOMOBRAN did manage to train some of its own officers.

To do this is all part of the brazenness of the Italians towards the Croats, and a proof of the subversive effect they had on the United regiments.

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B. PERSONLITIES.

JEVNIKOVIC D. Voiv.

Used to go round Italian camps looking for likely recruits. These were then released and sent to his camp at ABRAZI where they disappeared into the ranks of the Cetniks. He came to ROSS at the end of 43. D. thinks with the idea of recommending this process.

"Vojvoda" is a title  
not a name, it is best  
translated as "Marshall".

PAVELIC Ante.

Not in himself a bad man but has become one through German and Italian pressure. He is a typical Wallach, by race, and capable of violence if driven to it. His wife is half-Jewish.

BUJAK Milc.

A really great wifor. PAVELIC's adjutant. Also a Wallach by nature, but D. thinks, is in fact an Avaro by race, (i.e. Muhi). A completely inept politician.

KVATERNIK (Senior).

Italian by origin. Has admitted this in a speech at ROME. Suffered much at Serb hands. Has a very high opinion of himself and extravagant ideas of his own importance. Incompetent because old, and so removed at German intervention.

KVATERNIK (Junior)

His mother is a Jewess, the daughter of FRANK, the forerunner of PAVELIC. He has himself shown extraordinary cruelty in his treatment of Jews. Removed soon after his father with whom he was on bad terms and always discord. Played a large part in the MUSSELINE murder in 1934 and is said to have organised the actual crime. Held in high esteem by PAVELIC.

(NOTE:- D. is at pains to point out that the leading USTASI are not true Croats).

C. CETNIKS.

i) They started killing Croats before the Ustasi started massacring them.

ii) They had pamphlets printed by the Italians and dropped from aeroplanes. The gist of these was that they would kill "innocent for innocent, and guilty for guilty".

iii) D. has a photograph of a document issued by MUSSELINE "abolishing" the Moslem religion in the SINJAK area. There were at the time 140,000 Moslems there.

iv) Col. FRANCETIC, the famous Ustasi, alleged that in Feb. 42 at MOST M. L. and some Ustasi under him came upon an Italian guarding a bridge with two Cetniks. The Italian promptly shot the two Cetniks, when he saw FRANCETIC, to conceal the fact that Cetniks and Italians were collaborating.

v) In March 44 D. was introduced at MUSSELINE to Capt. Ferruccio ZICLIOTTI, nephew of the Mayor of ZAGREB and of a family well known there. In his cups he admitted that he had frequently been an emissary to the Cetniks and Partisans, and claimed to have visited MUSSELINE's HQ. He further admitted that the Italians had started all the trouble in YUGOSLAVIA.

(NOTE:- D. also produced a sheaf of typewritten copies of documents purporting to give details of Cetnik atrocities against the Croats. These were typical "atrocities" literature and except as expressing his attitude have little or no value).

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9. CONCLUSION.

D. is at least probably an honest man, even if distinctly misguided in his political views. These appear somewhat academic, and are probably derived mainly from reading combined with a fierce Croat Nationalism.

That he is an ardent Croat Nationalist there can be no doubt. He has also betrayed a certain sympathy for the Ustasi regime beyond that to which he will admit, e.g. when he associated himself with the dissident movement within the Ustasi Party.

His account of his activities has at all times been straightforward, though some reticence was shown about his Croat-Slovene Relief Committee at ZAGREB and its connexion with AVSTENIK.

It should be noted that in calling himself a Croat citizen he is representing himself to belong to a state not recognised by the Allied Powers, and factually at war with them.

It has been at pains to express his political outlook and beliefs, and possibly his intention in remaining in YUGOSLAVIA is to attempt a political re-入党 of the Ustasi Party. It is to be noted that his former colleague AVSTENIK is propounding an almost precisely parallel argument for the Slovene Clericals, and that they may still be linked together.

19 July 1944.

(Sgd.) (G. R. C. Davis)  
Capt.

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